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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2013-113

S-metolachlor

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of a new use on sweet potatoes to the product labels of DUAL™ MAGNUM® Herbicide and DUAL II MAGNUM® Herbicide, containing technical grade S-metolachlor, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the labels of DUAL™ MAGNUM® Herbicide and DUAL II MAGNUM® Herbicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Numbers 25728 and 25729, respectively. DUAL II MAGNUM® Herbicide also contains the safener benoxacor. MRL consultation for the benoxacor present in DUAL II MAGNUM® Herbicide is being conducted under a separate action.

The evaluation of these S-metolachlor applications indicated that the end-use products have merit and value, and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for S-metolachlor is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRL can be found in Appendix I.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRL is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRL, to be added to the MRLs already established for S-metolachlor, is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limit for S-metolachlor

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food Commodity
S-metolachlor	2-chloro-*N*-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-methoxy-1-methylethyl)acetamide and 2-chloro-*N*-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-methoxy-1-methylethyl)acetamide, including the metabolites 2-[(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)amino]-1-propanol and 4-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-3-morpholinone	0.2	Sweet potato roots

[1] ppm = parts per million

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The MRL proposed for S-metolachlor in Canada is the same as the corresponding American tolerance as listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, there are no Codex MRLs[1] listed for S-metolachlor in or on any commodity on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food webpage.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for S-metolachlor up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRL will be legally in effect as of the date that it is entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

Residue data from field trials conducted in Canada and the United States were reassessed within the context of the current petition to support the domestic use of DUAL™ MAGNUM® Herbicide and DUAL II MAGNUM® Herbicide on sweet potatoes. Metolachlor was applied to potatoes, which were harvested according to label directions.

Maximum Residue Limit

The recommendation for a maximum residue limit (MRL) for S-metolachlor was based on residue data previously reviewed for metolachlor and S-metolachlor on potatoes, as potato is the representative crop for the Root and Tuber Crop Group.

Following the review of all available data, an MRL of 0.2 ppm is recommended to cover residues of S-metolachlor in/on sweet potato roots. Residues of S-metolachlor in sweet potatoes at the proposed MRL will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.